In re Appln. of OHMURA et al. Application No. Unassigned

## ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS

Replace the Abstract with:

A scale (104) generates a periodical periodic light-intensity distribution pattern having a predetermined pitch (P) with upon irradiation of by emission light from a light source (102). A plurality of light-receiving Light-detecting element groups are shifted relative to the scale to generate phase signals having predetermined fixed phase differences. A plurality of light-receiving Light-detecting elements are adjacently positioned to have the same phase to form each light-receiving light-detecting element group. Area centers of gravity (28,29; 38,39) on a phase axis (109) of a plurality of the light-receiving light-detecting element groups having a predetermined-relationship in fixed phase difference are made coincident with each other.